bring down the capital costs in these ventures; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The policy to encourage greater private sector participation in the Indian Power Sector was announced in 1991. Various suggestions from private power developers and state governments have been received since 1991 for streamlining the development of the private sector power schemes including suggestions for concessions etc.

(b) Out of the 92 private sector power projects being monitored by the Ministry of Power and requiring the techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority, only 11 projects have so far achieved financial closure. As per information available, the main reason for most of the projects not achieving financial closure is the reluctance by the lenders in releasing funds in the backdrop of difficulties being faced by the promoters in securing a credible security cover such as allocation of escrow cover and also finalising a bankable fuel supply/transportation agreement. Government has not perceived the lack of fiscal concessions and leasing option for equipment as being a major constraint for achievement of financial closure.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of Power from Pakistan

2603. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed power transfer scheme from Pakistan;

(b) whether there is any existing transmission line for power import from Pakistan;

(c) whether any new transmission line/ sub station is to be constructed for this purpose;

(d) if so, the length of the transmission line, its capacity, transmission voltage and its cost;

(e) the tariff of this imported power and mode of payment; and

(f) the names of the States to which these power will be supplied?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (f) Technical level discussions were held at Islamabad on November, 25-26, 1998 between the two countries on purchase of power from Pakistan. It was agreed during the discussions that the next round of discussions would be held in New Delhi on mutually convenient dates for consideration and in-principle agreement in the power export possibility identified for the short term and subject to the conclusion of such agreement, commercial discussions will follow. No final decision has yet been taken.

Assistance to Hydro Electric Potential in Himachal Pradesh

2604. SHRIMATI CHADRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested for allocation of Rs. 40 crore under Central Support Scheme for Survey and Investigation in Himachal Pradesh to harness unexploited Hydro Electric Potential in the State at a faster speed;

(b) if so, the details thereof with pending date of such request;

(c) whether Government propose to take some decision on these requests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) Government of Himachal Pradesh had requested in November, 1997 for a special grant in aid of Rs. 60 crores outside the State Plan to undertake the survey and investigation work and preparation of DPRs for 24 schemes during the period 1997-2001. As the survey and investigation is normally included in the project cost, Government do not provide funds in the form of grant-in-aid. Therefore, they were advised in July, 1998 to take up the matter with the Power Finance Corporation.

Power Finance Corporation have sanctioned three loans to HPSEB for survey and investigation works and preparation of DPRs for the following schemes:—

s. No.	Scheme	Sanction date	Amount (Rs crores)
1.	Shongtong-Karcham Thopan-Powari HEP	July, 1996	6.8
2.	Tangnu-Romai HEP (44 MW) Chirgaon Mujhgaon HEP (46 MW) Paudital-Lassa (Rohru) HEP (36 MW)	June, 1997	4.84
3.	Bharmour HEP (45 MW) Kutehar HEP (240 MW)	January, 1998	3.84

2 **दिल्ली विद्युत बोर्ड में अनियमितताएं**

2605. **श्री गुफरान आजम**: क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कै दिल्ली विद्युत बोर्ड (डी. वी. बी.) उपभोक्ताओं को जान बूझकर बिजली के बिल बढ़ा –चढ़ाकर भेजता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षो के दौरान कितने दोषी कर्मचारियों और अधिकारियों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(घ) दिल्ली विद्युत बोर्ड द्वारा बरती जा रही अनियमितताओं पर सरकार द्वारा अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

विद्युत मंत्री (श्री पी. आर. कुमारमंगलम): (क) से (घ) डी वी बी 23 लाख से अधिक पंजीकृत उपभोक्ताओं को विद्युत की खपत के बिल भेजता है । पर बिल कम्प्यूटर के द्वारा तैयार किए जाते है ताकि बिजली के बिलों को बढ़ा-चढ़ा कर न भेजा जाए । दर्ज प्रतिशत त्रुटि 1.43% से कम है । इन त्रुटियों को और कम करने के लिए समेकित प्रयास किए जा रहे है । औसतन, प्रशासनिक और अन्य कारणों की वजह से अन्तिम बिल भेजे जाते है । शेष अगर कोई हो, तो अनुवर्ती बिलों में समायोजित कर दिया जाता है । त्रुटिपूर्ण बिलों को ठीक करने के लिए संबंधित जिला कार्यालयों के कांउटारों पर तथा अवकाश के दिनों में भी कार्यालयों में प्रबंध किए गए है । प्रत्येक माह के प्रथम शनिवार को बिजली अदालतें भी आयोजित की जाती है ताकि बिलों और अन्य बिजली समस्याओं से संबंधित उपभोक्ताओं की शिकायतों को सुना जा सके ।

डीवीबी का सर्तकता विभाग आकस्मिक कांच भी करता है तथा डीवीबी के कर्मचारियों के कथित कदाचार और दुर्व्यवहार के खिलाफ कि गई शिकायतों को भी देखता है । त्रुटिकर्ता कर्मचारियों के खिलाफ उचित अनुशासत्मक कार्रवाई की जाती है । तीन वर्षो के दौरान डीवीबी के सतर्कता विभाद ने बिलिंग विभाग के कर्मचारियों के खिलाफ अनियमितताओं के 87 मामलो की जांच की है । लगाए गए दंड इस प्रकार है;

1) सेवा से हटाए गए कर्मचाती -6

2) पदोन्नति को रोकने का दंड -4